

# Washington State Judicial Branch 2015-2017 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST

## Decision Package

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**Agency** Administrative Office of the Courts

**Decision Package Title** Mason County Superior Court Judge

**Budget Period** 2015-2017 Biennial Budget

**Budget Level** Maintenance Level

### Agency Recommendation Summary Text

Funding is requested for a new superior court judge in Mason County as approved by the legislature.

### Fiscal Detail

Operating Expenditures	FY 2016	FY 2017	Total
001-1 General Fund State	\$ 108,000	\$ 108,000	\$ 216,000
Staffing	FY 2016	FY 2017	Total
FTEs (number of staff requested)	1	1	1

### Package Description

The Washington State Legislature recognized the need for an additional judge in the Mason County Superior Court and approved the position in the 2014 legislative session. However, funding was not provided at that time. This request is for funding for salaries and benefits to support the approved third superior court judge position for Mason County.

### Narrative Justification and Impact Statement

**This package contributes to the Judicial Branch Principle Policy Objective identified below.**

**Appropriate Staffing and Support.** *Washington courts will be appropriately staffed and effectively managed, and court personnel, court managers and court systems will be effectively supported.*

The legislature has determined that an additional judge is needed in Mason County; therefore, funding is requested for the support of that position. The Administrative Office of the Courts pays 50% of the salary and 100% of the benefits for all superior court judges in the State of Washington.

### **Measure Detail**

#### **Impact on clients and service**

None

#### **Impact on other state services**

None

#### **Relationship to Capital Budget**

None

#### **Alternatives explored**

Not Applicable

#### **Distinction between one-time and ongoing costs and budget impacts in future biennia**

The position is permanent and funding will be ongoing.

#### **Effects of non-funding**

The Administrative Office of the Courts would not have sufficient funding for the salary and benefits to support a third judge for Mason County Superior Court.

### **Expenditure calculations and assumptions and FTE assumptions**

<b>Object Detail</b>	<b>FY 2016</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Staff Costs</b>	\$ 108,000	\$ 108,000	\$ 216,000
<b>Non-Staff Costs</b>	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Objects</b>	<b>\$ 108,000</b>	<b>\$ 108,000</b>	<b>\$ 216,000</b>